R H Womble

THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. V. RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1864. NO. 126.

BY J. L. PENNINGTON & CO.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The following are the only terms of subscription to The Progress:

Daily paper, 1 month............$[illegible]
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" 6 months............[illegible]

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SPEECH OF

HON. ALEX. H. STEPHENS,

DELIVERED BEFORE

THE GEORGIA LEGISLATURE,

On Wednesday Night, March 16th, 1864.

Reported for the Atlanta Intelligencer by A. E. Marshall, and Revised by Himself.

At the hour of 7½ o'clock, P. M., the Hall had been filled to its utmost capacity by members of the Legislature and citizens generally, and as the vast assemblage within saw the beloved form of Georgia's proud and noble son, every eye grew bright with joy, and a hearty and unanimous applause bid him welcome.

Mr. Stephens ascended the Speaker's stand and spoke as follows:

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In compliance with your request, or at least with that of a large portion of your respective bodies, I appear before you to-night to speak of the state of public affairs. Never, perhaps, before, have I risen to address a public audience under circumstances of so much responsibility, and never did I feel more deeply impressed with the weight of it. Questions of the most momentous importance are pressing upon you for consideration and action. Upon these I am to address you. Would that my ability, physically, and in all other respects, were commensurate with the magnitude of the occasion. We are in the midst of dangers and perils. Dangers without and dangers within. Scylla on the one side and Charybdis on the other. War is being waged against us by a strong, unscrupulous and vindictive foe; a war for our subjugation, degradation and extermination. From this quarter threaten the perils without. Those within arise from questions of policy as to the best means, the wisest and safest, to repel the enemy, achieve our independence, to maintain and keep secure our rights and liberties. Upon the decision of these questions, looking to the proper development of our limited resources, wisely and patriotically, so that their entire efficiency may be exerted in our deliverance, with, at the same time, a watchful vigilance to the safety of the citadel itself, as much depends as upon the skill of our commanders and the valor of our citizen soldiers in the field. Everything dear to us as freemen is at stake. An error in judgment, though springing from the most patriotic motives, whether in councils of war or councils of state, may be fatal. He, therefore, who rises under such circumstances to offer words of advice, not only assumes a position of great responsibility, but stands on dangerous ground. Impressed profoundly with such feelings and convictions, I should shrink from the undertaking you have called me to, but for the strong consciousness that where duty leads no one should ever fear to tread. Great as are the dangers that threaten us, perilous as is our situation—and I do not intend to overstate or understate, either to awaken undue apprehension, or to excite hopes and expectations never to be realized—perilous, therefore, as our situation is, it is far, far from being desperate or hopeless, and I feel no hesitation in saying to you, in all frankness and candor, that if we are true to ourselves, and true to our cause, all will yet be well.

In the progress of the war thus far, it is true there is much to be seen of suffering, of sacrifice and of desolation; much to sicken the heart and cause a blush for civilization and christianity. Cities have been taken, towns have been sacked, vast amounts of property have been burned, fields have been laid waste, records have been destroyed, churches have been desecrated, women and children have been driven from their homes, unarmed men have been put to death, States have been overrun and whole populations made to groan under the heel of despotism; all these things are seen and felt, but in them nothing is to be seen to cause dismay, much less despair; these deeds of ruin and savage barbarity have been perpetrated only on the outer borders, on the coast, and on the line of the rivers, where by the aid of their ships of war and gunboats the enemy has had the advantage; the great breadth of the interior—the heart of our country—has never yet been reached by them; they have as yet, after a struggle of near three years, with unlimited means, at a cost of not less than four thousand millions of dollars (how much more is unknown) and hundreds of thousands of lives, been able only to break the outer shell of the Confederacy. The only signal advantages they have as yet gained have been on the water, or where their land and naval forces were combined. That they should have gained advantages under such circumstances, is not a matter of much surprise. Nations in war, like individual men or animals, show their real power in combat when they stand upon the advantages that nature has given them, and fight on their own ground and in their own element. The lion, though king of the forest, cannot contend successfully with the shark in the water. In no conflict of arms away from gunboats, during the whole war, since the first battle of Manassas to that of Ocean Pond, have our gallant soldiers failed of victory when the numbers on each side were at all equal. The farthest advance into the interior from the base and protection of their gunboats, either on the coast or the rivers, that the enemy has been able to make for three years was the late movement from Vicksburg to Meridian, and the speedy turn of that movement shows nothing more clearly than the difficulties and disadvantages attending all such; these things should be noted and marked in considering our present situation and the prospects of the future. In all our losses up to this time, no vital blow has ever been given either to our cause or our energies. We still hold Richmond, after repeated efforts to take it, both by force and strategy. We still hold on the Gulf, Mobile, and on the Ocean front, Wilmington, Savannah and Charleston. These places have been, and are still held against the most formidable naval armament ever put afloat.

At Charleston the enemy seem to direct all their power, land and naval, that can be brought to bear in combination—all their energy, rancour and vengeance. "*Carthago delenda est*" is their vow as to this devoted city. Every means that money can command and ingenuity suggest, from the hugest engines of war never before known to the fiendish resort of Greek fire, have been and are being applied for its destruction. For nearly nine months the city, under the skill of our consummate commander, his subordinates, and the heroic virtues of our matchless braves in the ranks, still holds out against all the disadvantages of a defence without suitable naval aid. That she may continue to hold out, and her soil never be polluted by the unhallowed foot print of her vandal besiegers, is, of course, the earnest wish of all. But even if so great a disaster should happen to us as the loss of Charleston, be not dismayed, indulge no sentiment akin to that of despair—Charleston is not a vital part. We may lose that place, Savannah, Mobile, Wilmington, and even Richmond, the seat of government, and still survive. We may lose all our strong places—the enemy may traverse our great interior, as they have lately done in Mississippi, and we may still survive. We should, even under such calamities, be no worse off than our ancestors were in their struggle for independence. During the time that "tried men's souls" with them, every city on the coast, from Boston to Savannah, was taken by the enemy. Philadelphia was taken, and Congress driven away. South Carolina, North Carolina, portions of Georgia, Virginia, and other States, were overrun and occupied by the enemy as completely as Kentucky, Missouri, Louisiana, and Tennessee are now. Take courage from the example of your ancestors—disasters caused with them nothing like dismay or despair—they only aroused a spirit of renewed energy and fortitude. The principles they fought for, suffered and endured so much for, are the same for which we are now struggling.—State Rights, State Sovereignty, the great principle set forth in the declaration of independence—the right of every State to govern itself as it pleases. With the same wisdom, prudence, forecast and patriotism, the same or equal statesmanship on the part of our rulers in directing and wielding our resources, our material of war, that controlled public affairs at that time, in the camp and in the cabinet, and with the same spirit animating the breast of the people, devotion to liberty and right, hatred of tyranny and oppression, affection for the cause for the cause's sake; with the same sentiments and feelings on the part of rulers and people in these days as were in those, we might and may be overrun as they were; our interior may be penetrated by superior hostile armies, and our country laid waste as theirs was, but we can never be conquered, as they never could be. The issues of war depend quite as much upon Statesmanship as Generalship; quite as much upon what is done at the council board as upon what is done in the field. Much the greater part of all wars, is business—plain practical every day life business; there is in it no art or mystery or special knowledge, except good, strong, common sense—this relates to the finances, the quartermaster's and commissary's departments, the ways and means proper—in a word to the resources of a country and its capacities for war. The number of men that can be spared from production, without weakening the aggregate strength—the prospect of supplies, subsistence, arms and munitions of all kinds. It is as necessary that men called out should be armed, clothed, shod and fed, as that they should be put in the field—subsistence is as essential as men. At present we have subsistence sufficient for the year, if it is taken care of and managed with economy. Upon a moderate estimate, one within reasonable bounds, the tithes of wheat and corn for last year were not less, in the States east of the Mississippi, (to say nothing of the other side,) than eighteen million bushels. Kentucky and Tennessee are not included in this estimate. This would bread an army of five hundred thousand men and one hundred thousand horses for twelve months, and leave a considerable margin for waste or loss.—This we have without buying or impressing a bushel or pound. Nor need a bushel of it be lost on account of the want of transportation from points at a distance from railroads. At such places it could be fed to animals, put into beef and pork, and thus lessen the amount of these articles of food to be bought. Upon a like estimate the tithe of meat for the last year, will supply the army for at least six months—rendering the purchase of this article necessary for only half the year—the surplus in the country, over and above the tithes, is ample to meet the deficiency. All that is wanting is men of business capacity, honesty, integrity, economy and industry in the management and control of that department. There need be no fear of the want of subsistence this year, if our officials do their duty. But how it will be next year, if the policy adopted by Congress, at its late session, is carried out, no one can safely venture to say.

This brings me to the main objects of this address, a review of those Acts of Congress to which your attention has been specially called by the Governor, and on which your action is invoked—these are, the currency, the military, and the *habeas corpus* suspension acts. It is the beauty of our system of government, that all in authority are responsible to the people.—It is, too, always more agreeable to approve than to disapprove what our agents have done. But in grave and important matters, however disagreeable or even painful it may be to express disapproval, yet sometimes the highest duty requires it. No exceptions should be taken to this when it is done in a proper spirit, and with a view solely for the public welfare. In free governments men will differ as to the best means of promoting the public good. Honest differences of opinions should never beget ill feelings, or personal alienations. The expressions of differences of opinion do no harm when truth alone is the object on both sides. Our opinions in all such discussions of public affairs should be given as from friends to friends, as from brothers to brothers, in a common cause. We are all launched upon the same boat, and must ride the storm or go down together. Disagreements should never arise, except from one cause—a difference in judgment, as to the best means to be adopted, or course to be pursued, for the common safety. This is the spirit by which I am actuated in the comments I shall make under these Acts of Congress.

As to the first two of these measures, the Tax Act and Funding Act, known together as the financial and currency measures, I simply say, in my judgment, they are neither proper, wise or just. Whether in the midst of conflicting views, in such diversity of opinion and interests, anything better could not be obtained, I know not—perhaps not. With that view we may be reconciled to what we do not approve. It is useless now to go into discussions of how better measures might have been obtained, or how bad ones might have been avoided—the whole is a striking illustration of the evils attending first departures from principle—the "*facilis descencus Averno.*" Error is ever the prolific source of error. Our present financial embarrassments had their origin in a blunder at the beginning, but we must deal with the present, not the past. These two Acts make it necessary for you to change your legislation to save the State from loss. As to the course you should adopt to do this, I know of none better than that recommended by the Governor. His views and suggestions on this point seem to be proper and judicious.

The military act by which conscription is extended so as to embrace all between the ages of seventeen and fifty, and by which the State is to be deprived of so much of its labor and stripped of the most efficient portion of her enrolled militia, presents a much graver question. This whole system of conscription I have looked upon from the beginning as wrong, radically wrong in principle and policy. Contrary opinions, however, prevailed. But whatever differences of opinion may have been entertained as to the constitutionality of the previous Conscript Acts, it seems clear to my mind that but little difference can exist as to the unconstitutionality of this late Act. The Act provides for the organizing of troops of an anomalous character—partly as militia and partly as a portion of the regular armies. But in fact, they are to be organized neither as militia or part of the regular army. We have but two kinds of forces, the regular army and the militia. This is neither. The men are to be raised as conscripts for the regular forces, while their officers are to be appointed as if they were militia. If they were intended as militia, they should have been called out through the Governor, in their present organization. If as regular troops they cannot be officered as the act provides. It is most clearly unconstitutional. Who is to commission these officers? The Governor cannot, for they are taken from under his control; the President cannot constitutionally do it, for he can commission none except by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. It is for you to say whether you will turn over these forces, and allow them to be conscripted, as is provided, leaving the question of constitutionality for the courts, or whether you will hold them in view of agricultural and other interests, or, for the execution of State laws, and to be called out for the public defense in case of emergency by the Governor when he sees the necessity, or when they are called for as militia by the President. The Act upon its face, in its provisions for details, seems to indicate that its object is not to put the whole of them in the field. Nothing could be more ruinous to our cause if such were the object and intention and should it ever be carried into effect. For if all the white labor of the country, from seventeen to fifty—except the few exceptions stated—be called out and kept constantly in the field, we must fail, sooner or later, for want of subsistence and other essential supplies. To wage war successfully, men at home are as necessary as men in the field. Those in the field must be provided for, and their families at home must be provided for. In my judgment, no people can successfully carry on a long war, with more than a third of its arms-bearing population kept constantly in the field, especially if cut off by blockade, they are thrown upon their own internal resources for all necessary supplies, subsistence and munitions of war. This is a question of Arithmetic on well settled problems of political economy. But can we succeed against the hosts of the enemy unless all able to bear arms up to fifty years of age are called to and kept in the field? Yes, a thousand times, yes, I answer, with proper and skillful management. If we cannot without such a call, we cannot with it, if the war last long. The success of Greece against the invasion by Persia—the success of the Netherlands against Philip—the success of Frederic against the allied powers of Europe—the success of the Colonies against Great Britain, all show that it can be done. If our only hope was in matching the enemy with equal numbers, then our case would be desperate indeed. Superior numbers is one of the chief advantages of the enemy. We must avail ourselves of our advantages. We should not rely for success by playing into his hand. An invaded people have many advantages that may be resorted to to counterbalance superiority of numbers. These should be studied, sought and brought into active co-operation. To secure success, brains must do something as well as muskets.

Of all the dangers that threaten our ultimate success, I consider none more imminent than the policy embodied in this Act, if the object really be, as its broad terms declare, to put and keep in active service all between the ages of seventeen and fifty, except the exempts named. On that line we will most assuredly, sooner or later, do what the enemy never could do, conquer ourselves. And if such be not the object of the Act—if it is only intended to conscript men not intended for service, not with a view to fill the army, but for the officials, to take charge of the general labor of the country and the various necessary avocations and pursuits of life, then the Act is not only wrong in principle but exceedingly dangerous in its tendency.

I come now to the last of these Acts of Congress. The suspension of the writ of *Habeas Corpus* in certain cases. This is the most exciting, as it is by far the most important question before you. Upon this depends the question, whether the courts shall be permitted to decide upon the constitutionality of the late Conscript Act, should you submit that question to their decision, and upon it also depend other great essential rights enjoyed by us as freemen. This Act, upon its face, confers upon the President, the Secretary of War, and the General commanding in the trans-Mississippi Department, (the two latter acting under the control and authority of the President) the power to arrest and imprison any person who may be simply charged with certain acts, not all of them even crimes under any law; and this is to be done without any oath or affirmation alledging probable cause as to the guilt of the party. This is attempted to be done under that clause of the Constitution which authorizes Congress to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, in certain cases.

In my judgment, this act is not only unwise, impolitic and unconstitutional, but exceedingly dangerous to public liberty. Its unconstitutionality does not rest upon the idea that Congress has not got the power to suspend the privilege of this writ, nor upon the idea that the power to suspend it, is an implied one, or that clearly implied powers are weaker as a class and subordinate to others positively and directly delegated.

I do not understand the Executive of this State to put his argument against this Act upon any such grounds. He simply states a fact, as it most clearly is, that the power to suspend at all is an implied power. There is no positive direct power delegated to do it. The power, however, is clear and clear only by implication. The language of the Constitution, that "the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended unless, when in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it," clearly expresses the intention that the power may be exercised in the cases stated; but it does so by implication only, just as if a mother should say to her daughter, you shall not go unless you ride. Here the permission and authority to go is clearly given. This and this only, I understand the Governor to mean when he speaks of the power being an implied one. He raises no question as to the existence of the power or its validity when rightfully exercised, but he maintains, as I do, that its exercise must be controlled by all other restrictions in the Constitution bearing upon its exercise. Two of these are to be found in the words accompanying the delegation. It can never be exercised except in rebellion or invasion. Other restrictions are to be found in other parts of the Constitution. In the amendments to the Constitution adopted after the ratification of the words as above quoted. These amendments were made, as is expressly declared in the preamble to them, to add "further declaratory and restrictive clauses," to prevent misconstruction or abuse of the powers previously delegated. To understand all the restrictions, therefore, thrown around the exercise of this power in the Constitution, these additional "restrictive clauses" must be read in conjunction with the original grant whether that was made positively and directly or by implication only. These restrictions, among other things, declare that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law," and that the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized."

All admit that under the clause as it stands in the original grant, with the restrictions there set forth, the power can be rightfully exercised only in cases of rebellion or invasion. With these additional clauses, put in as further restrictions to prevent the abuse of powers previously delegated, how is this clause, conferring the power to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, now to read? In this way, and in this way only: "The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it." And no person "shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law." And further, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized."

The attempted exercise of the power to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* in this Act, is in utter disregard of the very face and teeth of these restrictions, as much so as a like attempt in time of profound peace would be in disregard of the restrictions to cases of rebellion and invasion, as the Constitution was originally adopted. It attempts to provide for depriving persons "of liberty, without due process of law." It attempts to annul and set at naught the great constitutional "right" of the people, to be secure in their persons against "unreasonable seizures." It attempts to destroy and annihilate the bulwark of personal liberty, secured in our great chart to the humblest as well as the highest, that "no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation," and "particularly describing the person to be seized." Nay more, it attempts to change and transform the distribution of powers in our system of government. It attempts to deprive the Judiciary Department of its appropriate and legitimate functions, and to confer them upon the President, the Secretary of War, and the General Officer commanding the Trans-Mississippi Department, or rather to confer them entirely upon the President, for those subordinates named in the Act hold their places at his will, and in arrests under this Act are to be governed by his orders. This, by the Constitution, never can be done. Ours is not only a government of limited powers, but each department, the legislative, executive and judicial, are separate and distinct. The issuing of warrants, which are nothing but orders for arrests against civilians or persons in civil life, is a judicial function. The President, under the Constitution has no power to issue any such. As commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces, and the militia when in actual service, he may order arrests for trials before Courts Martial, according to the rules and articles of war. But he is clothed with no such power over those not in the military service, and not subject to the rules and articles of war. This Act attempts to clothe him with judicial functions, and in a judicial character to do what no judge, under the Constitution, can do: issue orders or warrants for arrest, by which persons are to be deprived of their liberty, imprisoned, immured in dungeons, it may be without any oath or affirmation, even as to the probable guilt of the party accused or charged, with any of the offences or acts stated. This, under the Constitution, in my judgment, cannot be done. Congress can confer no such power upon our Chief Magistrate. There is no such thing known in this country as political warrants, or "*letters de cachet.*" This Act attempts to institute this new order of things so odious to our ancestors, and so inconsistent with constitutional liberty.

This act, therefore, is unconstitutional, not because Congress has not power to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, but because they have no power to do the thing aimed at in this attempted exercise of it.—Congress can suspend the privilege of the writ—the power is clear and unquestioned—neither is the power, as it stands, objectionable. Georgia, in the Convention, voted against the clause conferring it in the Constitution as originally adopted—that, perhaps, was a wise and prudent vote. But, with the restrictions subsequently adopted, there can be no well grounded objection to it. It is, under existing restrictions, a wise power. In time of war, in cases of rebellion or invasion, it may often be necessary to exercise it—the public safety may require it. I am not prepared to say that the public safety may not require it now. I am not informed of the reasons which induced the President to ask the suspension of the privilege of the writ at this time, or Congress to undertake its suspension as provided in this act. I, however, know of no reasons that require it, and have heard of none. But in the exercise of an undisputed power, they have attempted to do just what cannot be done—to authorize illegal and unconstitutional arrests—there can be no suspension of the writ, under our system of government, against unconstitutional arrests—there can be no suspension allowing, or with a view to permit and authorize, the seizure of persons without warrant issued by a judicial officer upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation—the whole Constitution must be read together, and so read and construed as that every part and clause shall stand and have its proper effect under the restrictions of other clauses.

If any conflict arises between clauses in the original and the amendments subsequently made, the original must yield to the amendments, as a will previously made always yields to the modifications of a codicil. Such, of course, was the condition of the old Constitution with its amendments, when the States of this Confederacy adopted it—and it was adopted by these States with the meaning, force and effect it then had. In construing, therefore, those parts of the old Constitution which we adopted, we stand just where we should have stood under like circumstances, under it. With these views it will clearly appear that, under our Constitution, Courts cannot be deprived of their right or be relieved of their duty to enquire into the legality of all arrests except in cases arising in the land and naval forces or in the militia, when in actual service—for the government of which a different provision is made in the Constitution. Under a Constitutional suspension of the privilege of the writ all the Courts could do, would be to see that the party was legally arrested and held—upon proper warrant—upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation setting forth a crime or some violation of law. Literally and truly then the only effect of a Constitutional exercise of this power over the writ of *habeas corpus* by Congress, is to deprive a person, after being legally confined, of the privilege of a discharge before trial, by giving bail, or on account of insufficiency of proof as to probable cause or other like grounds. This privilege only can be suspended, and not the writ itself. The words of the Constitution are aptly chosen to express the purpose and extent to which a suspension can go in this country. With this view the power is a wise one. It can work no serious injury to the citizen and it sufficiently guards the public safety. The party against whom a grave accusation is brought, supported by oath or affirmation, founded upon probable cause, must be held for trial, and if found to be guilty is to be punished according to the nature of his offence. The monstrous consequences of any other view of the subject are apparent. The exercise of the power by Congress may be either general or limited to special cases as in this instance. If it had been general under any other view what would have been the condition of every citizen in the land? The weaker would have been completely in the power of the stronger without remedy or redress. Any one in the community might seize for any motive or for any purpose any other and confine him most wrongfully and shamefully. Combinations of several against a few might be formed for a like purpose, and there would be no remedy or redress against this species of licensed lawlessness.—The Courts would be closed—all personal security and personal safety would be swept away. Instead of a land of laws, the whole country would be no better than a White-friars domain—a perfect Alsatia. This would be the inevitable effect of the exercise of the power, by a general suspension, with any other view of the subject, than this presented. The same effects up to outrages upon personal rights must issue under a limited suspension confined to any specified cases under any other view. No such huge and enormous wrongs can ever spring from our Constitution if it be rightly administered. So that the conclusion of the whole matter is well stated by the Governor in his late Message, in the brief, comprehensive, but exact terms—"The only suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus known to our Constitution and compatible with the provisions already quoted, goes to the simple extent of preventing the release, under it, of persons whose arrests have been ordered, under Constitutional warrants from Judicial Authority."

[CONCLUDED TO-MORROW.]

ADVERTISING RATES.

The following are the only terms for all advertisements inserted in the Daily and Weekly Progress:

One day	[illegible]	One week	[illegible]
Two days	[illegible]	Two weeks	[illegible]
Three days	[illegible]	Three weeks	[illegible]
Four days	[illegible]	One month	[illegible]
Five days	[illegible]	Two months	[illegible]

Fifty words, or eight lines or less, count a square, and additional squares will be charged the same. Advertisements inserted once a week, or less than once a week, will be charged $1 a square for every insertion.

When sent by letter, the money must accompany the advertisement. Marriages, deaths, religious and other notices charged as advertisements and must be paid in advance.

PROGRESS ALMANAC FOR 1864.

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APRIL.						1	2	OCT'R.							1
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GOVERNMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

His Excellency, Zebulon B Vance, Buncombe, Governor.
Col David A Barnes, Northampton, Aid.
do George Little, Wake do
Richard H Battle, Jr, Anson, Private Secretary.
Dr Edward Warren, Chowan, Surgeon General.
John P H Russ, Wake, Secretary of State.
Jonathan Worth, Randolph, Public Treasurer.
Curtis H Brogden, Wayne, Comptroller.
Samuel F Phillips, Orange, Auditor.
Oliver H Perry, Wake, State Librarian.
Major General R C Gatlin, Lenoir, Adjutant General.
Major William B Gulick, Beaufort, Paymaster.
Major John Devereux, Wake, Quartermaster.
Major Thomas D Hogg, Wake, Commissary and Ordnance Officer.
Major James Sloan, Guilford, Quartermaster.
Major Henry A Dowd, Edgecombe, do
Major James H. Foote, Asst. Adjt. Gen., (Roll of Honor.)
Major William A. Graham, Jr., Ass't Adjt. General.
Lieut Josiah Collins, Washington county, Ordnance Department.
Lieut. John B. Neathery, Wake, Asst. Adjt. General.
Lieut. Thomas White, Franklin, Asst. Quartermaster.

JUDICIAL.

Supreme Court.—Richmond M Pearson, Yadkin, Chief Justice; William H Battle, Orange, and Matthias E Manly, of Craven, Judges; Sion H Rogers, Wake, Attorney General; Hamilton C Jones, Rowan, Reporter; Edmund B Freeman, Clerk. [Meets in the city of Raleigh second Monday in June each year. The Morganton term has been discontinued.]

Superior Courts.—Judges.—Edwin G Reade, Person; Romulus M Saunders, Wake; Robert R Heath, Chowan; Robt S French, Robeson; James W Osborne, Mecklenburg; George Howard, Wilson; Robert B Gilliam, Granville; William M Shipp, Henderson.

Solicitors.—1st Circuit, Jesse J Yeates, Hertford; 2nd Circuit, Charles C Clark, Craven; 3rd Circuit, Sion H Rogers, Wake, Attorney General; 4th Circuit, Thomas Settle, Rockingham; 5th Circuit, Ralph Buxton, Cumberland; 6th Circuit, Robert F Armfield, Yadkin; 7th Circuit, William P Bynum; 8th Circuit, Augustus S. Merrimon, Buncombe.

Confederate States District Court.—Hon Asa Biggs, Martin, Judge; George V Strong, Wayne, Attorney; W F Watson, Craven, Clerk; Wesley Jones, Wake, Marshal.

Council of State.—P B Satterthwaite, Pitt; Robert P Dick, Guilford; Dr James Calloway, Wilkes; [illegible], Johnston; J R Hargrave, Anson; Jesse R Stubbs, Martin; James A Patton, Buncombe.

Literary Board.—His Excellency Gov. Vance, President *Ex officio*, Rev William E Pell, Wake, and Professor Richard Sterling, Guilford; Dr. Wm. Sloan, of Gaston; Richard H Battle, Jr, Secretary.

Board Internal Improvements.—His Excellency Governor Vance, President ex officio, Wm Eaton, Jr, of Warren and J H Flanner, of New Hanover. Richard H Battle, Jr, Secretary.

Commissioners of Sinking Fund.—Hon Thomas Ruffin, Alamance, Hon Weldon N Edwards, Warren, and Hon David L Swain, Orange.

The University of North Carolina is at Chapel Hill.—Hon David L Swain, President.

Rev Calvin H Wiley is Superintendent of the Common Schools of the State.

Wiley J Palmer, A M, is Principal of the N C Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind, at Raleigh.

Dr Edward C Fisher is Superintendent [illegible] Asylum for

GOVERNMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

JEFFERSON DAVIS, of Mississippi, President; salary $25,000.

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, of Georgia, Vice-President, salary $6,000.

Aids to the President.—Col Wm M Browne, of Ga, Col James Chesnut, of S C, Col Wm P Johnston, of Ky, Col Joseph C Ives, of Miss, Col G W C Lee, of Va, Col John T Wood.

Private Secretary to President.—Burton N Harrison, of Miss.

Department of State.—Judah P Benjamin, of La, Secretary of State. L Q Washington, Chief Clerk. The office of Assistant Secretary is vacant.

Department of Justice.—Attorney General, Geo Davis of North Carolina. Wade Keyes, of Ala, Assistant Attorney General. Rufus R Rhodes, of Miss, Commissioner of Patents. G E W Nelson, of Ga., Superintendent of Public Printing. [illegible], of Va, Public Printer.

Treasury Department.—C G Memminger, of S C, Secretary of the Treasury. Robert Tyler, Register. E C Elmore, Treasurer. [illegible], of Va, Chief Clerk. Lewis Cruger, of S C, Comptroller. B Baker, of Florida, 1st Auditor. W H S Taylor, of La, 2d Auditor.

War Department.—James A Seddon, of Va, Secretary of War. Judge John A. Campbell, of Ala, Assistant Secretary of War. R G H Kean, Chief Bureau of War. Gen S Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General. Lieut Col John Withers, Lieut Col H L Clay, Major [illegible] Palfrey, Major Chas H Lee, Major S W Melton, and Captain Reilly, Assistant Adjutants and Inspectors General. Brig Gen A R Lawton, of Ga, Quartermaster General. Col L B Northrop, of S C, Commissary General. Col J Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance. S P Moore, M D, Surgeon General. C H Smith, M D, Assistant Surgeon General.

Navy Department.—S R Mallory, of Florida, Secretary of the Navy. [illegible], Chief Clerk. Com John M Brooke, Chief of Ordnance. [illegible] Inspector of Ordnance. [illegible] in charge of Orders and Details. [illegible] Medicine and Surgery. [illegible] Clothing and Provisions.

Postoffice Department.—[illegible], Postmaster General. H St George Offutt, of Va, Chief of Contract Bureau. B N Clements, of Tenn, Chief of Appointment Bureau. John L. Harrell, of Ala, Chief Finance Bureau. B Fuller, of N C, Chief Clerk.

DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1864.

Vice President Stephens' Speech.

We give a part of the great speech of Mr. Stephens to-day and shall publish the remainder to-morrow. We have no room for comments. Extra copies of our Weekly edition containing the whole speech can be had if orders are sent in immediately.

The Exchange Question.

Commissioner Ould has been to Fortress Monroe and had an interview with Butler. Yes, after all the denunciation and outlawry we have recognized Butler—to the extent of sending our Commissioner of Exchange to confer with him. If this course was to be pursued pity it could not have been done sooner, for much suffering would have been saved our noble fellows thereby.

On the subject of the visit of Ould to Butler, the *Sentinel* of Monday says:

"The understanding which prevailed on yesterday was, that Mr. Ould, Confederate Agent of Exchange, had returned from an interview with General Butler, in which the early exchange or rendition of the remaining prisoners on each side was agreed upon; and that a boat load may be expected up this week.

"Nothing could be more gratifying than to receive home our captive countrymen; but we feel constrained to say, that it will be a profound mortification to our people if it shall prove true that it is to be effected as alleged. We do not know with what grace officials find themselves able to devour those brave words in which they undoubtedly expressed the sentiment of the army and the country. Nor do we believe or imagine there was any justifying necessity. The exchange which had been commenced, and had progressed so far, was a committal of the Washington authorities to the continuance of it on the same basis from which they could not have extricated themselves without exciting an intense and overwhelming clamor among the friends of the remaining prisoners. We could only have needed a tithe of that firmness which we have hitherto shown, at once to save our honor and carry our point. In the present understanding of the question, we share in the mortification and dissatisfaction which will be universally felt."

Butler seems to be as impudent as ever if the following, which appears in the *Dispatch*, is to be believed.

"It is said Butler boasted of his attachment to the Democratic party, and expressed his admiration for Jeff Davis."

We have heard that Butler and President Davis were great cronies in the old Congress, and knew that the Massachusetts fanatic voted for Mr. Davis in the Convention at Charleston, to defeat Douglas and break up the Democratic party, but we did not expect him, after three years of bloody war between the two sections and after he had been outlawed by our government, to talk of "admiration for Jeff. Davis."

We are earnestly desirous that the prisoners should be exchanged, but hope at the same time that the dignity of our government will not be lowered in the matter.

The *Enquirer*, more confident than the other Richmond papers, says the cartel is to be resumed. That paper says:

"We are gratified in being able to make the happy announcement that a regular system for a general exchange of prisoners is agreed upon, and will be immediately inaugurated.

Commissioner Ould returned on Saturday from Fortress Monroe, at which point he has been, under a flag of truce, two or three days past, on business connected with his department, the result of which, he informs us, is the resumption of the cartel, with the prospect under its provisions, of an immediate exchange of all the prisoners of war on both sides.

A flag of truce boat is expected at City Point on Wednesday, bearing a large number of Confederates from Point Lookout.

On Thursday, a boat load of Federal prisoners will be forwarded in exchange.

We congratulate the people of the Confederacy on the glad tidings of this announcement; but much more so our prisoners themselves, who have suffered so terribly, endured so heroically, and who deserve the generous and joyous reception we trust they will receive on their return, in the way of private greeting, as well as of popular demonstration."

* * *

The Work Goes On.—The running of the mammoth distillery in Salisbury is a plea employed by other violators of the law in nearly all the surrounding counties for running smaller establishments of the same kind, and thus the precious grain, so much needed for the support of life, is being rapidly consumed to make whisky. In Rowan, Iredell, Yadkin, Davidson and perhaps Davie, it is said there are men openly setting the law at defiance. They are bold men, surely; for there is not a more stringent law on the statute book. Every violation of it subjects the offender to a fine of $500 and sixty days imprisonment; and every day's operation is held to be a violation of the law. Thus, for one week's work, a distiller would have to pay $3,000 and lie in jail 360 days. Any one who informs against a distiller, receives one-half the fine money. We think there ought to be informers, and that the officers of the law should see to it that these offenders are brought to a strict account.

An attempt was made in this county at the last Court to subject the offenders against the statute in this Town, but on some account it failed. Will some one acquainted with the facts in the case do the favor to furnish them to us for publication? There are many who desire to know why it failed.—*Salis. Watchman.*

Is the "mammoth distillery in Salisbury" run on government account?—and if so, can the *Watchman*, being at the place, tell the country the proportion of the whisky it makes that is consumed by the officers of that and neighboring military posts, and the proportion used for sick soldiers? The country would like to have that information, for had the sick soldiers of the army drank one-fifth of the quantity that has been manufactured for them they would all have been dead long ago.

* * *

The Asheville *News* says General Longstreet has fallen back to some point east of Greenville, Tennessee. He was not pressed by the enemy and the move was made for strategic reasons. We may add that the Richmond papers place Longstreet's headquarters at Bristol.

* * *

We regret to learn that there was another explosion at the powder mill yesterday, by which Mr. Waterhouse and a man by the name of Stephens both had a leg broken. Other persons were slightly injured and the building in which it occurred considerably damaged.

CHIEF JUSTICE PEARSON.

We call the attention of such of our cotemporaries as have indulged in animadversions upon the patriotism of this distinguished jurist, to the following letter. It will be seen that his political views and sympathies have been misapprehended by some, and in their zeal for the cause of our struggling country, harshly judged of by others. This letter will, therefore, afford all the means of correcting their errors, and doing justice where no wrong was intended.

We may add that the letter was written by an avowed secessionist and cordial supporter of the administration, and was in reply to some incidental allusion by this gentleman in his letter to the public slander of his good name, and assuring him that while differing with him on many legal questions decided by him, he believed the Judge had so decided from a pure and conscientious though mistaken judgment; and that he had invariably resented these aspersions whenever his rebuke might have been understood or heeded.

For the honor of our dear old State, which has suffered with the Chief Justice, by and through these attacks, let our cotemporaries publish this letter with befitting comments.—*Sal. Watchman.*

[We cheerfully publish the letter of our most excellent Chief Justice, but have no "befitting comments" to make, never having slandered Judge Pearson as some bitter and malignant partizans have. We have, all along, contended that we had no more loyal or patriotic citizen than Judge Pearson. We endorse his letter, we endorse his decisions, and hold the same views he does on *habeas corpus* and personal liberty. —Ed. Progress.]

Richmond Hill, March 23d, 1864.

My Dear Sir:—The petition of —— was received last week—he was not arrested as a conscript, but as an officer, and there being no averment that his resignation (although tendered) had been accepted, I did not think it came under the case of Bradshaw. You wrote you did not desire the writ unless I was of opinion it came under that case, so I put it in the bundle of "petitions rejected." In the case of —— my opinion was that his having put in a substitute in the Confederate service, did not exempt him from home guard duty, so it was put in the bundle of "rejected cases." (I reckon some of your "military friends" will be surprised to learn I have such a bundle.) The 3rd section of the act suspending the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, in my opinion, undoubtedly contemplates that writs are to issue as before, and provides, as some protection to the citizen, that the officers shall make a certificate under oath, that the party is detained as a prisoner by order of the President or Secretary of War for one of the causes specified; so it is still the duty of the Judges to grant the writ, and let the matter proceed, at least, to this stage, and it will be for the officer to decide whether he can take the oath. You will see my reasons in full in an opinion in Roseman's case, sent to the *Progress* last week. Col. Mallett's Enrolling Officers, to writs issued on the petition of men who had put in substitutes, certify under oath "the party is detained as a prisoner by order of the Secretary of War for attempting to evade military service." Upon these I entered "the certificate is so general as not to present the question whether Congress has power to suspend the privilege of the writ in civil cases, or whether it was the intention to do so.—I can take no further action: the matter awaits such motion as the petitioner may be advised by his counsel."—So the cases stand, and I presume nothing more will be done until the Court decides Walton's case.

Your contradiction of any imputaiton upon the motives under which I have acted, in all of the questions which I have been called on to decide, is no more than I expected of you; still it is gratifying to know that I have some friends who are to be relied on. Perhaps, in the consciousness of my own singleness of purpose, and the hold which I know I have on the good opinion of the members of the profession and the people at large, I regard too little the aspersions of those who do not take the trouble to think for themselves, but are content to be the repeaters of newspaper abuse. All I ask of such men, as penance for the injustice they have done me, is to read my opinion in Walton's case, and in Roseman's case. They may not agree with me, but they will feel satisfied that I have acted from the clearest convictions of duty. I have as much at stake as any of them, and God knows I love our country as well. So, when a newspaper resorts to abuse, it only shows my reasons cannot be answered.

In regard to my opinion in *habeas corpus* cases, you may say to your friends that nearly all of the principles were decided by me on the construction of the conscription and exemption acts before last June Term, and every one of my decisions were affirmed by the Supreme Court. Those on the late acts of Congress will be before the Court next June, and I will, of course, be governed by the decisions of the court. I go so little from home as to have but few occasions to express my political opinions.

I will say to you, and you are at liberty to read this letter to your military friends to whom you allude, ever since the State seceded, my opinion has been that we are in for it, and the only way is to fight it out—there is no use in talking about peace until one side or the other is whipped good—these sentiments I freely communicated to Gov. Vance when he wrote, asking my advice as to what he should do about "the peace meetings."

The idea of North Carolina leaving her sister States in the lurch, is out of the question.

Very truly, yours, &c.,
R. M. PEARSON.

* * *

No Excuse for Starving.—If any one has ever seriously entertained the idea that there was any danger of starving on account of the scarcity of grain, just let him look at the heaps of corn and wheat being received by the Tithe Collectors, and let him remember that this is only one-tenth of the amount raised. In this Congressional District, composed of the counties of Mecklenburg, Rowan, Cabarrus, Union, Lincoln, Gaston, Catawba and Cleaveland, we think the returns will prove that at least five thousand bushels of Wheat and one million bushels of corn were raised the past year. We expect to justify this statement by official figures showing the number of bushels received as one-tenth by the Tithe Collectors. Some curiosity is felt to know what has become of the remaining nine-tenths, inasmuch as nine out of ten men say they have not enough to supply their own wants, and in view of the fact that but little has been sold or shipped off. Wonder if the rats and mice could have devoured the greater portion of it? If so, the said rats and mice are in mighty good order, and people may have to commence eating them, for two purposes, viz: to satisfy the pinchings of a hungry stomach and to prevent a scarcity of bread hereafter. So, upon the whole, there is "no excuse for starving," and the Yankees might as well abandon all hope of starving us into submission.

We have heretofore indulged in some pretty severe denunciations of the speculators, but we expect we shall have to turn upon the rats now, if they have caused corn to advance to $15 and $20 per bushel and flour to $170 per barrel.—*Char. Democrat.*

We have never believed there was any danger of being starved into submission, if our people at home would do their duty. The showing the *Democrat* makes is very cheering, and the soldiers families of the counties he names ought not to be allowed to suffer. But many of them do suffer, if their own testimony is to be believed. The *Democrat* speaks of the large amount of Tithe wheat and corn, and wants to know what has become of the other nine-tenths. Has not a large portion of it been gathered up by speculating sharks and shipped to other States? Is there not now or has there not been, during the last twelve or eighteen months, thousands of barrels held by a few speculators in Charlotte, awaiting higher prices, while the poor and the destitute families of soldiers were suffering?

By economy the people might save themselves against short crops, but if the speculators are permitted to hoard the small stock on hand, some of us must starve

* * *

Two Yankee Captains escaped from the prison in Salisbury a few nights ago, and another Yankee, in attempting to escape, was shot and immediately killed.

REMARKABLE FOUNTAIN IN FLORIDA.

The following is a beautiful description of a fountain of water in Florida:

Taking a narrow path, I crossed through some dense underwood and all at once I stood on the banks of the Wakulla spring. There was a basin of water one hundred yards in diameter, almost circular. The thick bushes were almost growing to the water's edge, and bowing their heads under the unrippled surface. I stepped into a skiff and pushed off. Some immense fishes attracted my attention and I seized a spear to strike them. The boatman laughed and asked me how far beneath the surface I supposed they were? I answered about three feet. He assured me that they were at least twenty from me, and it was so. The water is of the most marvellous transparency. I dropped an ordinary pin in the water, forty feet deep, and saw its head with perfect distinctness as it lay on the bottom. As we approached the centre I noticed a jagged, grayish limestone rock beneath us pierced with holes; through these holes one seemed to look into unfathomable depths. The boat moved slowly on, and now we hung trembling over the edge of the sunken cliff, and far below it lay a dark, yawning, unfathomable abyss.—From its gorge comes pouring forth, with immense velocity, a living river.

Pushing on just beyond its mouth I dropped a ten cent piece into the water, which is there 190 feet in depth, and I clearly saw it shining on the bottom. This seems incredible. I think the water possessed a magnifying power. I am confident that the piece could not be so distinctly seen from a tower 190 feet high. We rowed on toward the North side, and suddenly we perceived in the water, which were darting hither and thither, the long flexible roots and the wide luxuriant grasses on the bottom, all arrayed in the most beautiful prismatic hues. The gentle swell occasioned by the boat gave to the whole an undulating motion. Death-like stillness reigned around, and a more fairy scene I never beheld.

So great is the quantity of water here poured forth that it forms a river itself, large enough to float flatboats with cotton. The planter who lives here has thus transported his cotton to St. Marks. Near the fountain we saw some of the remains of a mastodon, which had been taken from it. The triangular bone below the knee measured six inches on each side. Almost the entire skeleton has been sent to Barnum's Museum.

The Indian name of the fountain is beautifully significant. Wakulla means "The Mystery." It is said that the Spanish discoverers sprang into it with almost frantic joy, supposing they had discovered the long sough "*Fons Juventutis*," or the fountain of youth, which should rejuvenate them after their exhausting marches and battles.

MORE OF BUTLER'S MEANNESS.

The Wilmington *Journal* says:

We have heard recently an account of a characteristic act of B. F. Butler's, which we give, suppressing names. It would seem that the daughter of a most distinguished citizen of North Carolina, now deceased, had married a gentleman who died recently at or near Washington City. The bereaved widow, anxious in her affliction to enjoy the society of a much loved sister, obtained for this sister and for a niece residing with her, a permit from the Yankee Government for these ladies to enter the Yankee lines *without question*. Butler, through whom, perhaps, the permit passed, addressed a note to the lady requesting to be informed when she proposed setting out, so that he might be prepared to receive her, etc. The lady, with the true spirit of a Southern woman, who fully appreciates Butler, returned the note with the endorsement that Miss —— had never asked any favors from General Butler, and could never receive any at his hands. In due time she started, but when she reached Fortress Monroe, the book was poked at her, and she was required to take the Yankee oath of allegiance, which refusing to do, she was turned back, although the permission sent her to visit her bereaved sister especially stated that she was to do so without question. Thus it is that Butler resents the natural loathing felt for him by every true man and woman at the South, even to the extent of violating the faith of his Government pledged to two high-toned and accomplished ladies. Surely a Government that retains Butler must be lost to all sense of shame and of self-respect. This is a matter of comparatively recent occurrence.

* * *

A Hat Manufactory.—A hat manufactory has recently been established in Statesville. The *Express* says of the enterprise:

"We have neglected earlier to mention the establishment of this important "institution" in our town. We do so now, not because we have been complimented with a new "tile," not because there is a "brick in our old hat," but as an important and necessary article which has been almost totally neglected among the manufactures of the South. Messrs. Wittkowsky & Co., are the first, we believe, to turn out an article equal if not superior to the thousands that were formerly brought from the North; and in so saying, those who have examined the styles and quality, or who may hereafter purchase one of their manufacture, will testify to the truth of what we now write.

Mr. Saltzbery, Mr. Wittkowsky's associate, is thoroughly acquainted with the practical part of the business, having carried on an extensive and fashionable establishment in one of the large cities before the war, and therefore we cordially recommend their firm to Southern patronage, feeling sure that none will be disappointed in purchasing a hat of their manufacture.

We are informed, that orders have been coming in from all quarters, for the *a la mode*, but of course others will be received and promptly filled.

We wish the firm complete success in their undertaking."

* * *

Steamer Captured.—The *Examiner* of Monday says:

"An official dispatch was received yesterday at the War Department from General Beauregard communicating information from Major-General Patton Anderson of the destruction, on Saturday last, of a large double stack, side-wheel steamer in the St. John's river, Florida. The vessel was destroyed opposite the mouth of Doctor's Lake, some fifteen miles above Jacksonville. She is supposed to have been the Maple Leaf, which, it will be recollected, was seized last summer by Confederate prisoners, who, by a *coup de main*, effected their escape. Nothing is said of loss of life, nor is it stated whether the steamer was destroyed by a torpedo, or by a fire from the shore."

* * *

The Salisbury *Watchman* complains that the Tithe hay and fodder is rapidly going to waste at that place. Repeal the Tithe law and let the government officers buy supplies to support the army and this waste will be saved. We are in favor of its immediate repeal, and hope Congress will do it before the next crop matures. There is more or less of this waste all over the State. We have heard of whole barns full of corn wasting for want of attention. No necessity for both a Tithe and an Impressment law, unless it be to make offices for favorites. Let the Tithe law be repealed.

* * *

Will Prices Come Down?—This is the question asked by almost every one, and we confess we cannot give a satisfactory answer. The tax and currency bills were intended to curtail the currency to a large extent, and if buyers and sellers would only return to their senses (they have been crazy about two years) prices ought to go down. The only way to effect a decline in the prices of meat and bread is for producers to sell to consumers instead of speculators, and only demand reasonable prices. We hope prices will come down.

* * *

Hon. Burton Craige's smoke house, in Salisbury, was entered one night last week and a large amount of bacon stolen. We pity a man who cannot "save his bacon" in these times.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FOR THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. Thrasher, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

Later from the North.

Richmond, April 5.—The Baltimore *American* of the 2d received. A dispatch from Mattoon, Illinois, says it is reported by scouts that the rebels number fifteen thousand. A later dispatch says everything seems to have resumed the usual quiet. The rebels are believed to have dispersed.

The Red River expedition has penetrated as far as Natchez.

Deserters from Knoxville report Longstreet's whole force under marching orders.

A large force of rebels are concentrating at Pound Gap for a raid into Kentucky.

Grant and Meade have been to Fortress Monroe to confer with Butler.

It is reported that Buell has superceded Schofield in Tennessee. Gold closed at 68 on the 1st.

From Georgia.

Dalton, April 5.—News from the front, inside the enemy's lines, state that 2 brigades of infantry have gone towards Nashville, and it is reported by some that they have been sent to operate against Forrest and by others to be *en route* for the Potomac.

Forty-four regiments of infantry and ten batteries, who returned to Ohio to recruit, raised only five thousand in three months.

It is reported that McPherson relieves Thomas, who will be sent to another field; also that one brigade of cavalry and one of infantry have been sent forward to Chattanooga within the last few days.

The Federals that went out on a plundering expedition under Dodge have returned to Decatur.

Logan's Corps is at Larkinsville picketing Huntsville, Stevenson, the railroad and the river.

Nineteen Federals, in Confederate uniform, came to Triune Factory, near Summerville, and committed numerous depredations on Saturday.

From Richmond.

Richmond, April 5.—The rainy spell continues. All streams in Eastern Virginia are much swollen and the fisheries interrupted.

The impassable condition of the roads and the inclemency of the weather prevents the receipt of supplies, consequently prices of provisions are maintained at the highest figures.

It is reported that a new banking house will shortly be established here with a heavy combination of capital.

From Northern Virginia.

Orange C. H., April 5.—It is reported the Eleventh and Twelfth Army Corps, which went West last summer, are returning to the Army of the Potomac and are disembarking from the cars at Bealton Station.

A heavy rain has been falling for 48 hours. Roads deep in mud.

Rapidan swollen.

Amount Funded in Americus.

Atlanta, April 5.—The amount funded in Americus is $687,800.

Amount Funded in Statesville, S. C.

Statesville, April 5.—The amount funded in this place is $853,900.

Amount Funded in Marion and Selma.

Selma, April 5.—The amount funded in Marion is about $2,000,000, and in this city about $8,700,000.

* * *

Re-Enlisted.—There are no truer men or better soldiers than those from our mountain counties. The Asheville *News* says:

"The gallant 25th, formerly commanded by Col. (now General) R. B. Vance, have re-enlisted for the war unanimously. A great many of the boys are at home on furlough."

* * *

Decline of Prices.—The Asheville *News* of the 31st March, says:

"The auction sales here last week showed a downward tendency in every species of property. North and South Carolina Bank bills brought only 3¼ to 3¾ for one, in Confederate money, old issue. Money is growing scarce rapidly, and will soon be in great demand. Prices are obliged to come down.

Funeral Notice.

The Funeral of MARY, infant daughter of Col. J. A. and M. G. Baker, will take place from the residence of Mrs. Wm. H. Haywood, Jr., at 4½ o'clock this evening. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

☞ **Business Notice.**—The expenses attending the publication of the Progress are enormous and have to be paid promptly, and we must do a cash business or none at all. We must demand cash from all save those business men of the city who have accounts with the office, and parties at a distance are expected to remit promptly when bills are sent. We have no time to collect bills and don't want to make any charges. There never was a better time to pay debts than the present, and all who owe us are requested and expected to pay at once.

☞ **How to Send us Money.**—Never send by mail when you can send by Express. All money sent by Express at our expense. Those sending us money by mail must do so at their own risk.

☞ **Any of our friends receiving important** news from the army by private letter or telegrams, will confer a great favor on us by sending or leaving them at this office for our use.

☞ **Twenty cents for Rags.**—Twenty cents a pound will be paid for all clean Cotton an Linen rags delivered at the Progress office.

☞ **Job Printing.**—Having an abundance of material and good workmen we are prepared to execute all orders for Job Printing with dispatch.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO MACHINISTS.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, ONE OR TWO GOOD Machinists, at North State Iron and Brass Works. For good workmen, high wages will be paid and rations furnished. SHAY, WILLIAMSON & CO.
April 6-10t*

OLD IRON.

50,000 POUNDS OF OLD CAST AND wrought Iron wanted immediately, at North State Iron and Brass Works.
SHAY, WILLIAMSON & CO.
April 6-10t*

$25 REWARD.

RANAWAY, LOST OR STOLEN, MY [illegible] dog PAT. Pat is eight years old [illegible] was lame in his right shoulder [illegible] the above reward to any one who will [illegible] or for any information that will [illegible]
D. [illegible]
April 6-3t Kittrell's, [illegible]

NOTICE.

Office Raleigh & Gaston R. R. [illegible]

ON AND after [illegible] at 7 o'clock [illegible] M., and arrive at [illegible]
April 6-6t [illegible]

WANTED.

W[illegible]

A Conservative Meeting will be held at [illegible], Wake County, on the third Saturday in April. All true Conservatives are invited to be present.
March 31-td MANY CITIZENS.

To the People of North-Carolina.—In compliance with the wishes of many friends, I announce myself a candidate for the office of Governor of North-Carolina, at the election to be held on the first Thursday in August next.

My principles and views, as a Conservative, are well known to the people of the State. Those principles and views are what they have been.—They will not be changed.

I am not disposed, at a time like this, to invite people from their employments, and add to the excitement which prevails in the public mind, by haranguing them. We need all our energies to meet the common enemy, and to provide means of subsistence for our troops and for the people at home. Let the people quietly and firmly go to the polls and vote for the men of their choice. I will cheerfully abide their decision, whatever it may be.

If elected I will do every thing in my power to promote the interests, the honor and the glory of North-Carolina, and to secure an honorable peace.
March 4-td W. W. HOLDEN.

Hillsboro' Recorder, Salem Press, Greensborough Patriot, and Henderson Times will please copy till day of election, and forward accounts.

Congressional.—Editor Progress:—We beg leave to suggest the name of our fellow-citizen, Gen. JAMES M. LEACH, as a candidate for Congress in this District, to supply the vacancy created by the death of Colonel Christian. In times such as the present men of age and experience, who possess talents, should be called to office. And as a member of the Legislature for many years, and also to Congress, his speeches, votes and conservative course in both bodies, gave general satisfaction and made many personal and political friends.
March 10-tf MANY CITIZENS, of Davidson County.

We are authorized to announce A. G. FOSTER, of Randolph, a candidate to represent the 7th Congressional District of North Carolina in the Congress of the Confederate States, in the place of Hon. S. H. Christian, deceased.
March 16-td

AUCTION AND PRIVATE SALES.

SHEET IRON AT AUCTION.

ON THURSDAY, THE 14TH OF APRIL ENSUING, we will sell at auction, together with other articles, 100 Sheets of Sheet Iron 2x6 feet—new and recently imported: This affords to Farmers a rare opportunity to procure a much needed article for making boilers for Sorghum Syrup, as we shall sell in lots to accommodate.
April 5-eod2w CREECH & LITCHFORD, Auctioneers.

PUBLIC SALE.

IN WARREN COUNTY, N. C., NEAR LITTLETON, all my perishable property, 40 head of Cattle, 15 Milch Cows, 120 Sheep, Horses, Hogs, Bacon, Lard, Butter, Tallow, Leather, Household and Kitchen Furniture, Farming utensils, and many other things, 14 hhds Tobacco and 12 Bales Cotton. Terms Cash.
April 1-5t* G. B. ALSTON.

STOCK FOR SALE.

IF APPLICATION BE MADE IMMEDIATELY, I will sell One Hundred shares in the Chatham Rail Road Company at par—$100 per share.
March 19-tf W. W. VASS, Treas

WANTED TO HIRE.

WANTED AT THE PROGRESS OFFICE, IMMEDIATELY, a negro man. Highest wages paid.
March 31-tf

Quartermaster's Office C. S. A., Raleigh, N. C., March 23d, 1864.

I REQUIRE 25 (TWENTY-FIVE) NO. 1 NEGRO Men for employ in this Department. Parties having good hands to hire will do well to apply immediately.
W. E. PEIRCE,
March 31-tf Captain & A. Q. M.

NOTICE.

APPLICATION WILL BE MADE TO THE GENERAL Assembly, at its ensuing meeting in May, for a charter for the Stonewall Exporting and Importing Company.
March 31-3tawtd

SURGERY FOR FIELD AND HOSPITAL.

I AM NOW PREPARED TO SUPPLY MY WORK on Surgery, to subscribers and others who may wish to purchase it. On the receipt of $5,00, the book will be sent by mail postage paid.
EDWARD WARREN, M. D.
Aug 21-tf Raleigh, N. C.

ATTENTION!

BLANK WARRANTS, LAND DEEDS, MARRIAGE Licenses, County and Superior Court Writs and other Blanks for sale at the Standard Office.

—ALSO—

Job Printing promptly, neatly and accurately executed.
March 12-2awtf

NOTICE.

[illegible]

Office Raleigh & Gaston R. R. Co.,
Raleigh, March 29th, 1864.

THE TAX IMPOSED BY THE CONFEDERATE States for the year 1864, on the shares of the Capital Stock of this Company, will be paid by the Corporation. Share holders will not give in or pay this tax.
W. J. HAWKINS,
March 31-12t President.

HARNESS AND CARRIAGES.

THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY announces to the public that he is now prepared to trim and repair buggies and carriages; also all kinds of harness. Shop on Wilmington street, next door to the Confederate Blacksmith Shop. JOHN EAMES.
March 7-1m

WANTED.

10,000 POUNDS OF SHEET IRON IN SHEETS or scraps, not less than 1½ inches by four. Also a lot of Hoop iron, Rivets, size from 1 to 1½ pounds. Persons wishing to buy the wood works of two or four horse wagons, or the timber and boxes for same, would do well to call on the subscriber.
March 29-4w G. A. LACK.
Confederate copy 4 weeks.

WANTED

AT THE MANASSAS GAP RAIL ROAD SHOPS, Greensboro', N. C.,
8 first class Machinists.
6 Smiths.
20 Carpenters.
Highest wages paid. March 14-3tawlm

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE BANK OF COMMERCE AT NEWBERN.

THE CONFEDERATE STATES TAX OF FIVE PER cent. on the Capital Stock will be paid by the Bank. Shareholders will therefore not give in or pay this particular Tax.

You are notified that the REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING of this Corporation will be held in this place on the [illegible] day of MAY, being the [illegible] Tuesday. A full attendance is earnestly requested, either in person or by proxy. No President, Cashier, Director, Agent or Clerk, can vote as proxy for another.
[illegible] GUION, Cashier.
Company Shops, March 29, 1864. April 4-1m
Charlotte Bulletin copy for one time, and forward accounts to me.

A HORSE IN [illegible] CABARRUS [illegible]
[illegible] MATHIAS BARBEE [illegible] SMITH, Whiteville, Feb 13-tf

HORSES AND MULES WANTED.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, FOR THE CONFEDERATE service, a number of Horses and Mules. [illegible] would do well to [illegible]
W. W. PEIRCE,
April 2-[illegible] Major and Chief Q. M.

W. [illegible] & CO.,
STOCK AND EXCHANGE BROKERS,
RALEIGH, N. C.